

MARTIAL ARTISTS ON THE BIG SCREEN

Jackie Chan performs all of his own stunts in his movies (including *Rush Hour*). As a kid, Jackie lived in the Chinese Opera Research Institute in Hong Kong, where he learned singing, acrobatics, and dancing, along with martial arts.

Bruce Lee, one of the most famous martial artists/actors of all time, was known as "Little Dragon" and "Never Sits Still" when he was a kid. At the age of thirteen, he began studying martial arts. Five years later, he moved back to America. Eventually, he created his own style, called Jeet-Kune-Do.

Brandon Lee, Bruce Lee's son, began learning martial arts as soon as he could walk. By the time he was six, he could break wooden boards using martial arts moves.

Jet Li is one of the hottest martial artists/actors around. He was born in Beijing, China, in 1963. At about eight years old, he began training at the Beijing Amateur Sports School. He eventually won several Wushu Championships in China and has been in dozens of movies.

As a kid:

"I always wanted to fly when I was a kid and do all those high kicks like in the movies. I once saw this guy in the park doing all these kicks and punches and somersaults, and I said to my Dad, 'I want to do that.'"

Bruce, Jackie, and Jet:

"I was really into Bruce Lee movies when I was younger. I watched all his movies and all of Jackie Chan's movies. I also like the Jet Li films. It's all the Wushu style."

Work, work, work:

"There are so many years of training. The more you train, the longer it takes to get to a certain degree. You don't just get a degree every year — it could be every five or ten, so you have to train very hard."



On the set of Episode I, Ray Park demonstrates the famous Obi-Wan Kenobi vs. the battle droids move and trades saber blows with Liam Neeson (Qui-Gon Jinn).